



**COMMISSION ON SENIORS
MEETING MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, June 9th, 2021**

The Commission on Seniors convened a Regular Meeting via Videoconferencing.

Board Members in Attendance: Chair, *Jane Briesemeister*, Vice Chair, *Peter Varteressian*, *Adam Hauser*, *Amy Temperley*, *Diana Spain*, *Emily De Maria Nicola*, *Erica Garcia-Pittman*, *Fred Lugo*, *Jacqueline Angel*, *Luz Lopez-Guerrero*, *Martin Kareithi*, *Natalie Cagle*. *Patricia Bordie*, and *Sally Van Sickle*.

Board Members not in Attendance: *None*

Staff in Attendance: *Tabitha Taylor and Halana Kaleel*, Austin Public Health

Presenters: *Teresa Ferguson*, AustinUP and *Stepha Dragoon*, Intern, Austin Public Health

Chair, *Jane Briesemeister* called the Board Meeting to order at 1:03pm. The Commission introduced themselves.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

- A. Richard Bondi, Austin LGBT Elder Task Force, General Communication, Update on the Austin LGBT Elder Task Force's progress regarding an agreement with Family Eldercare
- B. Zenobia C. Joseph, General Communication, Title VI Testimony against Project Connect, Northeast Austin Cap Remap Elder Route Eliminations, and Affordable Housing.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE COMMISSION ON SENIORS APRIL 14TH, 2021 MEETING

- A. The minutes for the May 12th, 2021 meeting were approved on Vice Chair Varteressian motion, Commissioner Van Sickle second on a 12-0 vote. Commissioners Cagle and Garcia-Pittman were absent.
- B. Commissioner Garcia Pittman entered the dais at 1:11pm.
- C. Commissioner Cagle entered the dais at 1:14pm.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Commissioner De Maria Nicola discussed partnership between the food bank, Austin Public Health, and Amazon to do home deliveries for older adults. Commissioner De Maria Nicola will share flyer with staff liaisons for the Commissioners.
- B. Annual Review will be voted on at the July 2021 meeting, Chair Briesmeister requested updates from the work groups on this past year and plans for upcoming year.

3. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Discussion and possible action Commission Work Plan – Standing Item
 - i. No discussion currently.
- B. Discussion and possible action from Working Groups – Standing Item
 - i. Age Friendly Action Plan Implementation Working Group
 - No discussion currently.
 - ii. Transportation, Housing and Outdoor Spaces Working Group
 - No discussion currently.

- iii. Social Participation, Respect and Social Inclusion, Civic Participation and Employment Working Group
 - No discussion currently.
- iv. Community Support and Health Services Working Group
 - No discussion currently.
- v. Emergency Preparedness and Response Working Group
 - Commissioner Van Sickle provided update on current Emergency Preparedness efforts she has been involved in representing the Commission on Seniors.
 - Workgroup is preparing a resolution for City Council.
 - Commissioner Van Sickle is also serving on a City of Austin Listening Group representing the Commission on Seniors, feedback from this listening group will be provided to City Council at the end of July 2021. Listening sessions will continue into June, Commissioner Van Sickle will provide update to Commissioners via email.
- C. Discussion and possible action from Joint Inclusion Committee – Standing Item (Chair Briesmeister)
 - i. No discussion currently.
- D. Discussion and possible action of City of Austin Budget – Standing Item (Chair Briesmeister)
 - i. No discussion currently.
- E. Discussion and possible action on the Equity Action Team – Standing Item (Commissioner De Maria Nicola)
 - i. No discussion currently.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discussion and possible action on metrics and report to AARP and the Austin Age Friendly Plan (Teresa Ferguson, AustinUP, Tabitha Taylor, Age Friendly Program Coordinator, Austin Public Health, Stepha Dragoon, Intern, Austin Public Health)
 - i. Progress report was given on Age Friendly Austin
 - ii. The Budget Working Group will have final approval of the report that will be submitted to AARP on Age Friendly Austin prior to July 1st was approved by Vice Chair Varteressian motion, Commissioner De Maria Nicola second on a 14-0 vote.
- B. Discussion and possible action on recommendations to City County on Emergency Preparedness and Response (Commissioner Van Sickle).
 - i. Extending the deadline to the end of July 2021 for Emergency Preparedness and Response Workgroup to finalize and approve resolution to City County was approved on Commissioner Van Sickle motion, Commissioner Angel second on a 14-0 vote.
 - ii. Commissioner Kareithi left the dais at 2:00pm.
- C. Discussion and possible action to vote on and approve Joint Inclusion Committee Commission on Seniors Representative
 - i. Commissioner De Maria Nicola will serve on Joint Inclusion Committee representing the Commission on Seniors starting September 2021 was approved on Commissioner Van Sickle motion, Commissioner Garcia-Pittman second on a 13-0 vote. Commissioner Kareithi was absent.

5. STAFF BRIEFINGS

- A. Age- Age-friendly Austin Update, Tabitha Taylor, Age-Friendly Program Coordinator
 - i. Taylor provided update on Age Friendly and COVID-19 response efforts for Older Adults.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- A. None

7. ADJOURNMENT

A. Chair Briesemeister adjourned the meeting at 2:49pm.